

Workingmen's Houses,  
19 Locust Street  
Dubuque  
Dubuque County  
Iowa

HABS No. IA-159-B0

*HABS  
10W-1,  
31-DUBU,  
14-B0-*

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**PHOTOGRAPHS  
HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA**

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Historic American Buildings Survey  
Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
Rocky Mountain Regional Office  
P.O. Box 25287  
Denver Colorado 80225

Workingmen's Houses,

## 19 Locust Street

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IOWA  
31 DUBU  
14-B0-

Site Location: 19 Locust Street  
Dubuque, Dubuque County, Iowa  
DOT designation: Resource Site No. 4.30  
Cadastral grid : NE1/4 SE1/4 S25 T89N R2E  
USGS quadrangle: Dubuque South Iowa 7.5'  
UTM coordinates: 15.691880.4706840  
Lot dimensions : 27.4'x 87': .05 acre  
Lot description: Lot 1 of Lot 2  
of City Lot 575

Present Owner: Julia and Joseph O'Brien  
Present Usage: single family residence  
Present Condition : fair

Overall Dimensions: 2-story main block: 22'x 30'; 1-story rear addition:  
12'x 16'; front porch: 22'x 5'.

Orientation : east

Architectural Description : Plan type : 2-story rectangle with 1-story offset rear addition.

Foundation: coursed limestone rubble perimeter walls.  
Structure : wood frame with brick masonry bearing walls.  
Ext. walls: common red brick laid in common bond; wide exposure aluminum siding on rear addition.

Roofs : moderately pitched end gables over main block and rear addition, with asphalt shingles or roll roofing.

Chimneys : two brick exterior chimneys on main block (now truncated due to deterioration).

Dormers : none

Openings : painted wood double-hung windows with aluminum storms throughout; windows on first and second floor with segmental brick heads and front gable window with Italianate semi-circular arch brick head; single-leaf front door with side lights and transom offset under front porch; plain rear door on rear addition; simple casings and stone lug sills; bulkhead entrance to basement on rear of main block.

Porches : full-width, 1-story front porch (original removed), with aluminum canopy supported by wrought iron posts, concrete deck and wrought iron railing.

Details : boxed and molded cornices on main block roof.

Construction Date : c.1856

Architecture Style: Italianate

Physical History : Assessment records date this two-story brick house to 1856, which is possible, given the building's architectural style. In 1865 owner Catherine Edwards leased the property to Michael Ahern, a laborer for C.W. Robison's lumber yard on lower Dodge Street. Ahern purchased the property in 1873, but apparently lived here only briefly, if at all. Members of the Ahern family lived alternately with renters in the building until well into the 1940s. Other than the replacement of the original front porch with the current aluminum canopy in 1954 and the construction of a frame rear addition, the building has retained a high degree of architectural integrity.

Significance: This house is a well-preserved and well-proportioned example of the early workingmen's residences built on lower Locust Street. With its modest Italianate form and detailing, it fits within the mainstream of architectural styling for its period of construction.

References:            Dubuque City Directories: 1857 - 1970.  
                      Sanborn Insurance Maps: 1879, 1884, 1891, 1909, 1972.  
                      Dubuque County Assessment Record: 3-16-6-17.  
                      Dubuque City Building Permit Record: 19 Locust Street.  
                      Iowa Department of Transportation, "Draft Environmental  
                      Impact Statement - Cultural Resources Assessment."  
                      Land Title Abstract (located at Iowa Department of  
                      Transportation, Ames Iowa).

Compiler:            Clayton B. Fraser, Fraserdesign, Loveland Colorado.  
                      October 1988.